DISASTER NEWS

SBA
U.S. Small Business Administration

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes
SBA Disaster Assistance – Field Operations Center- East – 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303

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SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Center Opens
In Williamson County, Illinois

ATLANTA – The U.S. Small Business Administration announces today the opening of a Disaster Loan Outreach Center in the Williamson County EMA in Williamson County. This Center is scheduled to open on Monday, September 15 closing on September 19 at the close of business. The location of the Center will make it convenient for disaster victims affected by the severe storms and flooding of March 17 through April 30, 2008 to apply for disaster loan assistance. The SBA encourages victims to visit the Outreach Center to apply for assistance.

"I encourage anyone who has not completed their disaster loan application to meet with one of the Customer Service Representatives at the Center for one-on-one assistance," said Frank Skaggs, Director of SBA Field Operations Center East.

The location of the Disaster Loan Outreach Center is:

Williamson County
Williamson County EMA
8805 EMA Road
Marion, IL 62959
Opening: Monday, Sept. 15
Closing: Friday, Sept. 19, Close of Business
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Homeowners, renters and businesses in the following counties are eligible to apply: Alexander, Gallatin, Pulaski, Saline and Williamson counties and the adjacent counties of Franklin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Union and White in the State of Illinois; Posey County in Indiana; Ballard, McCracken and Union counties in the Commonwealth of Kentucky; Cape Girardeau, Mississippi and Scott counties in the State of Missouri.

"Loans up to $200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to $40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property," Frank Skaggs added.

Businesses of any size and non-profit organizations may borrow up to $2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, inventory, machinery and equipment. The SBA can also lend

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additional funds to help with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage in the future.

For small businesses, and most private, non-profit organization of all sizes, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

Interest rates are as low as 2.750 percent for homeowners and renters, and 4.000 percent for businesses with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based upon each applicant's financial condition.

Anyone unable to visit the Center may obtain an SBA Disaster Loan application or the SBA's program information by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (or 1-800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. EDT or by emailing our customer service center at disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Business loan applications may be downloaded from www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Applications may be returned to one of the Disaster Recovery Centers or mailed to: U. S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, Texas, 76155.

Victims may apply for disaster loans from SBA's secure web site at https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is **November 3, 2008.**
The deadline to return economic injury applications is **June 2, 2009**.

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For more information about the SBA's Disaster Loan Programs, visit our website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance**.**

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